

Message Text

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46

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W
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O 051534Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY OSLO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1250

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK IMMEDIATE

USMISSION NATO IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L OSLO 1135

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EFIS, MARR, NATO, PFOR, IC, NO, UK

SUBJ: UK/ICELANDIC FISHERIES DISPUTE: EXPANDED NORWEGIAN
PROPOSAL

REFS: (A) OSLO 1076, (B) STATE 49695, (C) OSLO 1100

1. FOREIGN MINISTER FRYDENLUND CALLED MARCH 5 TO
INFORM ME LATEST DEVELOPMENTS HIS EFFORTS TO BRING
UK AND ICELANDERS TO NEGOTIATIONS ON FISHERIES DISPUTE.
FRYDENLUND HAS BEEN IN TOUCH WITH BOTH PARTIES. BOTH
SIDES HAVE EVIDENCED CAUTIOUS INTEREST WITHOUT
COMMITTING THEMSELVES TO ANYTHING.

2. LONDON HAS MADE FAINTLY POSITIVE SOUNDS,
BUT HAS NOT GIVEN FIRM RESPONSE. FRYDENLUND SAYS
THEY HAVE RAISED QUESTION ABOUT THE NUMBER OF TRAWLERS
THAT MIGHT BE PERMITTED IN ICELANDIC WATERS. BRITHS,
HE SAID, WANT NATURALLY AS MANY AS POSSIBLE AND
ICELANDERS AS FEW AS POSSIBLE. ALSO UK STILL WANTS
A FIRM PROPOSAL WHICH ICELANDERS CAN ACCEPT,
AND ARE NOW WILLING TO RECEIVE PROPOSAL THROUGH
INTERMEDIARY, WHO AT THIS STAGE HAS NOT BEEN
DESIGNATED. HE EXPECTS TO HEAR AGAIN SOON FROM
LONDON.

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3. MEANWHILE PRIME MINISTER HALLGRIMSSON APPARENTLY IS STILL IN COPENHAGEN WAITING TO HEAR FROM FRYDENLUND. HE PLANS TO RETURN TO ICELAND MARCH 7. DEPENDING ON UK RESPONSE FRYDENLUND HOPES TO GO TO COPENHAGEN TO SEE HIM BEFORE HE LEAVES. FRYDENLUND SAID THEY HAVE DISCUSSED POSSIBILITY OF HALLGRIMSSON COMING TO OSLO BEFORE RETURNING TO REYKJAVIK BUT DROPPED THAT IDEA AS BEING TOO VISIBLE.

4. NEXT STEP THAT FRYDENLUND AWAITS IS A CLEAR NEXT STEP THAT FRYDENLUND AWAITS IS A CLEAR RESPONSE FROM LONDON. ON THIS HE IS HOPEFUL BUT BY NO MEANS OPTIMISTIC.
BYRNE

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Message Attributes

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